

PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. BSC-128

11000 U.S. PTO  
109/93914  
06/24/01  
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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Gellman et al.

SERIAL NO.: Not Yet Assigned GROUP NO.: Not Yet Assigned

FILING DATE: Herewith EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned

TITLE: Forward Deploying Suturing Device and Methods of Use

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make of record the patents and publications listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449, and other information contained herein, for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the patents and publications are enclosed.

### REMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- (1) within three (3) months of the **filing date** of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(d), or within three (3) months of the **date of entry of the national stage** as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing of the **first Office action** on the merits, or before the mailing of a **first Office action** after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114; or
- (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **final action** or a **notice of allowance** under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, and
  - the requisite Statement is below, **OR**
  - the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00**, is included herein, or
- (3) after the mailing date of a **final action** or **notice of allowance** but before the payment of the **issue fee**, **AND**

- the requisite Statement is below, AND
- the requisite petition fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00** is included herein.

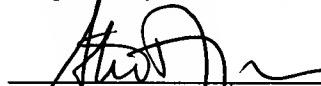
It is respectfully requested that each of the patents and publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and other information contained herein, be made of record in this application.

#### STATEMENT

As required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), Applicant(s), through the undersigned, hereby state either that [check the appropriate space only if either (2) or (3) is checked on the previous page and the Statement is required]:

- 1. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application **not more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
- 2. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to **any individual** designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) **more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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